

CLAIMS:

1. A method for presenting a long list of items, comprising the steps of:
 - displaying one page containing a predetermined number (Ni/p) of items in one section (31) of a display screen (3);
 - receiving a step size selection command from a user;

5 setting a step size in response to the step size selection command received;

 - receiving a step command (UP/DOWN) from a user;
 - displaying a new page of items, wherein the distance between the new page and the previously displayed page is equal to said step size.
- 10 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of displaying a set of browse control tools (40) in a second section (36) of said display screen (3);
 - wherein said browse control tools (40) comprise a plurality of hierarchic indicator volumes (41, 42, ...) each comprising a plurality of page indicators (51, 52, ...).
- 15 3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein one of said indicator volumes (41, 42, ...) is made ACTIVE in response to a step size selection command, and wherein the step size (SS) corresponds to one page size (Sp = Ni/p items) if the first indicator volume (41) is ACTIVE, and wherein, if the n-th indicator volume is ACTIVE, the step size corresponds to the following formula
- 20
$$SS = (Ni / p) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^{n-1} (Np / v(i)) \text{ items}$$
wherein Np/v(i) indicates the number of page indicators in the i-th indicator volume.
4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein one of said page indicators in the ACTIVE volume is switched to an ON state in response to a step command (UP/DOWN).
- 25 5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in response to a step command (UP/DOWN), a currently ON page indicator within said ACTIVE volume is switched to an

OFF state while a page indicator adjacent said currently ON page indicator is switched to said ON state.

6. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in response to a step command (UP/DOWN), if a currently ON page indicator within said ACTIVE volume is located at the end of the volume, said currently ON page indicator is switched to an OFF state while a page indicator at the opposite end of the ACTIVE volume is switched to said ON state, while also a currently ON page indicator within a second volume one hierarchic level higher than said ACTIVE volume is switched to an OFF state while a page indicator adjacent said currently ON page indicator within said second volume is switched to an ON state.

7. A system (1) for presenting a long list of items, comprising a display device (2) having a screen (3), user input means (4), and a CPU (6), the system being designed to perform the method according to any one of claims 1 to 6.

15 8. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said user input means comprise a keyboard (10) comprising a LEFT key (12) and a RIGHT key (13), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret an actuation of said LEFT key (12) or said RIGHT key (13) as a step size selection command.

20 9. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said user input means comprise a mouse device (20) comprising a LEFT mouse key (21) and a RIGHT mouse key (22), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret an actuation of said LEFT mouse key (21) or said RIGHT mouse key (22) as a step size selection command.

25 10. A system as claimed in claim 7, designed to display a LEFT command icon (60L) and a RIGHT command icon (60R) on said screen (3), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a click action at said LEFT command icon (60L) or said RIGHT command icon (60R) as a step size selection command.

30 11. A system as claimed in claim 7, designed to display a LEFT command icon (60L) and a RIGHT command icon (60R) on said screen (3), wherein said screen (3) is a touch screen, and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a touch action at said LEFT command icon (60L) or said RIGHT command icon (60R) as a step size selection command.

12. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said user input means comprise a keyboard (10) comprising an UP key (14) and a DOWN key (15), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret an actuation of said UP key (14) or said DOWN key (15) as a step command (UP/DOWN).

5 13. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said user input means comprise a mouse device (20) comprising a scroll wheel (23), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret an actuation of said scroll wheel (23) as a step command (UP/DOWN).

10 14. A system as claimed in claim 7, designed to display an UP command icon (60U) and a DOWN command icon (60D) on said screen (3), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a click action at said UP command icon (60U) or said DOWN command icon (60D) as a step command (UP/DOWN).

15 15. A system as claimed in claim 7, designed to display an UP command icon (60U) and a DOWN command icon (60D) on said screen (3), wherein said screen (3) is a touch screen, and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a touch action at said UP command icon (60U) or said DOWN command icon (60D) as a step command (UP/DOWN).

20 16. A system as claimed in claim 7, designed to display a plurality of UP command icons (71, 72, ... 75) associated with corresponding page indicator volumes (41, 42, ... 45) and a plurality of DOWN command icons (81, 82, ... 85) associated with corresponding page indicator volumes (41, 42, ... 45), and wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a click action or touch action at one of said UP or DOWN command icons (71, 72, ... 75; 81, 82, ... 85) as a combined step size selection command and step command (UP/DOWN).

25 17. A system as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 16, designed to display a plurality of bar indicators (61, 62, ... 65) associated with corresponding page indicator volumes (41, 42, ... 45), wherein said CPU (6) is designed to display in an ON state the one bar indicator corresponding to the ACTIVE volume.

18. A system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a click action or touch action at one of said bar indicators (61, 62, ... 65) as a step size selection command.

5 19. A system as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 18, wherein said CPU (6) is designed to interpret a click action or touch action at one of said page indicators as a combined step size selection command and step command (UP/DOWN).

10 20. A system as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 18, wherein said CPU (6) is designed to calculate an appropriate number of volumes (Nv) and an appropriate number of page indicators (Ni/p) in each volume, taking into account size of screen, size of item, size of page indicator.